

## Field Presence Workgroup – Region 5

To Complete the Data Collection with Supplemental Narrative:

**Please provide answers to the following by February 2, 2018.**

1. Additional Advantages or Challenges to Agency's Geographic Field Presence

Please open the attachment "Agency Field Presence Summary" and review the introductory statements about the agency's geographic field presence. Do you have additional advantages or challenges to add or revisions to suggest? (Please submit comments below)

No additional comments.

2. Regional Geographic Field Presence: One-Page Narrative

See attached.

3. Regional Organization Summary

Please review the Regional Organizational Summary. Where applicable, please provide, in a short paragraph, an explanation of the following:

- a. Describe why your region has a centralized enforcement division (R1, R2, R6, R8, R9, R10) or a non-centralized enforcement division (R3, R4, R5, R7)?

In a decentralized model, enforcement functions are integrated within overall program operations under a Division Director who, by overseeing both enforcement and non-enforcement programs, is in a position to take an integrated, balanced approach to advancing the environmental and public health mission of a given program. Measurable results for a given program should include the benefits of compliance, areas of significant noncompliance, and the benefits of law enforcement in preventing and repairing noncompliance (based on having an appropriate and calibrated mix of enforcement tools at its disposal).

- b. Describe why your region has a multi-media division/office (e.g., Air/RCRA combined)?

Region 5's closest multimedia division/office is the Land and Chemicals Division (LCD). It houses the RCRA, Pesticides, Toxics, Lead, TRI and LUST/UST programs. Region 5 decided to consolidate those regulatory, national programs that impacted land resources with the exception of the Superfund program. LCD serves as a focal point for each Region 5 State thereby providing direct program implementation and state oversight in synch to the needs of the States.

- c. Describe why your region has an Office of General Counsel (R1, R8)?

Not applicable to Region 5.

- d. Describe why your region has a Regional Science & Technology Office (RS&T) or equivalent (i.e. science division/office)?

All Regions conduct the same RS&T functions. Region 5 adopted a decentralized model. Certain Region 5 RS&T functions reside under the ARA, specifically the regional lab, with the Lab Director delegated to serve as the overall lead for RS&T coordination. Other functions such as the field operations work and QA are integrated into the programmatic divisions. Region 5 has found that this model works well because it allows for overall coordination of all programmatic functions within a division. Cross-division coordination of RS&T functions is fostered by regional organizations such as the Field Operations Group, the QA Core, and the Regional Science and Technology Council. The ORD Regional Science Liaison works with the Science Council to identify regional science research needs and ensures that the region complies with the Agency's peer review and scientific integrity policies.

- e. In addition, after reviewing the Regional Organizational Summary and describing the different structures above, please provide any additional information that would help describe your unique organizational structure.

No additional comments.

## Region 5 Geographic Field Presence Overview

Region 5 has 1019 employees, the majority of which are located in the main Chicago, IL regional office. Approximately 6.2% of the workforce work in smaller, out-stationed field offices and the Chicago Regional Laboratory. Region 5's most notable geographic feature is its proximity to the Great Lakes. The other notable feature is people. Fifty-two million people live here, which is about 16 % of the U.S. population. Our work covers six States: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin. The Great Lakes dominate the region's culture, economy and environment. Region 5 plays a vital role in the protection and sustained economic value of our largest surface freshwater system on Earth. Region 5's main Chicago office consists of several Divisions which are organized by media and national program. This structure provides direct program implementation as well as state assistance and oversight in synch with the needs of the various Region 5 States. These Divisions serve as the focal point for program specific issues for each State thereby enhancing working relationships and customer service. Besides our States and industry partners, Region 5 also works closely with 35 federally recognized tribes, the fourth largest in the country.

## Specific benefits of locations or reason for selecting the locations

Region 5's field offices help us respond quickly and efficiently when we need boots on the ground to carry out our mission. We maintain these offices in areas where we believe the faster response to emergencies and reduced costs of field work, along with better customer service, justify sustaining the investment. At several of these locations, we share offices with State and local partners to advance our joint missions. The forms this cooperative federalism takes vary, but include: collaborative problem-solving focused on local priorities; scientific collaboration; grants management; technical assistance; field work; law enforcement; setting minimum standards; shared resources, and overseeing delegated programs. Our field offices help us sustain better working relationships, faster public health protection, and stronger customer service than would otherwise be possible.

Beyond responding to hazardous materials and oil spill incidents, Region 5's out-stationed On Scene Coordinators (OSCs) participate in a wide variety of exercises and preparedness events with our State, local, Tribal, Federal, Canadian and industry partners. These OSCs routinely work with area fire departments and hazardous materials teams on readiness issues and training initiatives.

Specific benefits of each location include:

**Carterville, IL:** Region 5 has one OSC stationed in Carterville. This individual, along with the Cincinnati OSC, addresses emergencies along the Ohio River and southern tiers of Illinois and Indiana. The OSC liaisons with, and as requested by Illinois EPA, responds to incidents at the oil refineries and manufacturers in the East St. Louis and Belleville, IL, area and also serves as a reach-back resource for Region 4's OSC in Northern Kentucky and Region 7's OSCs in St. Louis.

**Cincinnati, OH:** The Region 5 has one OSC at this location. The OSC is situated with EPA's National Environmental Response Team resources in Cincinnati, and often partners with the Carterville OSC. This OSC coordinates with Ohio EPA and local authorities on emergency planning efforts in the Cincinnati-Dayton area, and along the Ohio River. This OSC is also a member of the national Incident Management Assistance Team, helping stand up Incident Management Teams in high-pressure situations, most recently in support of the Houston floods and the Northern California fires.

**Flint MI:** Region 5 has one Community Involvement Coordinator to support ongoing EPA activities related to the Flint drinking water crisis. In addition to Flint drinking water-related activities, the Michigan-based EPA community involvement coordinator who staffs the office provides community involvement support to Superfund sites in Michigan, including complex sites such as the Kalamazoo River (one of sites targeted by the Administrator), Tittabawasee River and Saginaw River and Bay and Velsicol sites. EPA leased the office space for two years.

**Green Bay, WI:** Region 5's one Green Bay OSC based in the local Wisconsin DNR office. In addition to covering Green Bay's paper and manufacturing sector and remote areas of Michigan's Upper Peninsula, this OSC is the liaison to Wisconsin DNR's geographically-dispersed field offices and frequently provides support to the Minneapolis OSC. The

Green Bay OSC is also a key liaison to Region 5's 30+ Tribes, providing response support and hazardous materials preparedness training to several Tribes along the Region's Northern Tier.

**Grosse Ile, MI:** There are currently 15 staff based out of the Grosse Ile office, which will relocate to Ann Arbor in 2018. The majority are OSCs who contribute to planning activities across Michigan and south to Toledo, OH. Economic challenges in Detroit and across the state have led to an ongoing need to manage both industrial legacy and new cleanup sites. Several of the Grosse Ile OSCs have also been active in Region 5's recent outreach and collaboration with the railroad sector, to promote hazardous chemical and oil spills awareness. Additionally, the Great Lakes National Program Office has one Area of Concern (AOC) Project Manager who works on the restoration and cleanup of a number of AOCs on the Detroit River, Rouge River and St. Claire River.

**Indianapolis, IN:** Two OSCs are based at the Indiana Department of Environmental Management Headquarters in Indianapolis. One of the OSCs was formerly an IDEM staffer, which has been tremendously helpful in building a strong relationship with, and in support, of the State. The Chicago-based OSCs tend to cover most of the responses involving Northwest Indiana's energy sector, with work in the rest of the State usually handled by the OSCs in Indianapolis.

**Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN:** The current Twin Cities OSC is a former Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) responder, which provides consistency and familiarity with the State's resources. A major urban center with the full range of environmental challenges and legacy sites, this OSC is continually presented with new challenges and new spill incidents. This OSC also collaborates with the Green Bay OSC and covers a wide area of Minnesota from the Upper Reaches of the Mississippi River to the Iowa State line.

**Traverse City, MI:** Region 5 has one OSC and one Tribal Liaison Traverse City, both support the Region 5 Michigan DEQ field offices, and covering a wide territory that includes the international shipping locks at Sault Ste. Marie, the tourism hub of Petoskey, scores of lakes and remote mine-scarred sections of the Upper Peninsula. This OSC also leads oversight of several ongoing vapor intrusion sites near Traverse City. The Tribal Liaison works closely with our tribal partners on collaborative problem-solving focused on local priorities and provides technical assistance.

**Westlake, OH:** There are currently 17 Region 5 staff at the Westlake OH location. Six of the staff are multimedia inspectors whom conduct compliance monitoring inspections throughout Region 5. In addition to the inspection work, the multimedia inspectors provide enforcement targeting support, field monitoring/sampling, field equipment maintenance and deployment, and inspection training to support Region 5's enforcement programs. The Westlake staff also provide collaborative problem-solving on local and State of Ohio priorities such as beneficial reuse of sediments and CWA 208 planning. The group works closely with state and local agencies including OEPA's Northeastern District office.

Seven Superfund Emergency Response staff are also based out of Westlake/Cleveland. This team responds to emergency and short-term cleanups across Ohio's Rust Belt, collaborating with the USCG's Cleveland District 9 office on Lake Erie shoreline incidents, and supports major cross-Regional sites along the borders with R3 and R4. Additional Superfund staff in the Westlake/Cleveland office include two Brownfields Coordinators working with grantee communities in Ohio; one Remedial Project Manager assigned to several sites in Michigan and Ohio and one Customer Service Analyst who provides administrative support.